

You are very welcome to take your Pew Sheet home

Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Sunday 27th December 2015 - BCP edition



**The United Benefice of Long Crendon (LC),
Cheersley (Ch) & Nether Winchendon (NW)**

WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY AND EVERY DAY

Prayer



Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen**

Collect and Readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day



The Collect:

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen**

The Epistle: Hebrews 1.1-12

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the first-begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom: Thou hast loved righteousness, and

hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: they shall perish, but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed; but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

The Gospel: St. John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his Name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.

Collect and Readings for the Sunday after Christmas

The Collect:

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen**

The Epistle: Galations 4.1-7

Now I say, that the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; but is under tutors and governors, until the time appointed of the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: but when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

The Gospel: St. Matthew 1.18-21

THE birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost: and she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins. (Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a Virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.) Then Joseph, being raised from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife; and knew her not till she had brought forth her first-born son: and he called his name Jesus.

To all Cheersley children searching for Woolly and his friends – please note that the time for the Cheersley Crib Service on Christmas Eve is 3:00 pm (and not 4:00 pm as was accidentally printed on the competition sheets, or, many apologies, 3:00 am as on last week's Pew Sheet!!)



Notes for your diary:

Tuesday 22nd December 6:30 pm – Cheersley's Carol Singing round the Village. Meet at the bus stop at 6.30 that evening (bring a torch and ideally wear something reflective). There will be the traditional post singing refreshments!

Christmas Day, Friday 25th December 10:00 am in St. Mary's – Please note the unusual time, 10:00 am, for the Family Holy Communion in Long Crendon on Christmas Day (to allow you to attend church and to get home in time for all the Christmas Day jobs!).

Sunday 10th January is Plough Sunday, so at St. Mary's Long Crendon the Morris Men will be dancing in church at the end of the 10:30 am Holy Communion service.

Advance Notice: Saturday 30th January 2016 - Long Crendon Friends of St. Mary's Safari Supper. Forms are available from St. Mary's, the Flowerpot Café, the Library, or from james.frew@mac.com Forms will also be e-mailed to everyone who took part last year, or if you have queries call Mary Frew on 202018. The deadline for joining is Saturday 16th January – we look forward to seeing you!

Services in the United Benefice

Services Thursday 24th December 2015 – Christmas Eve

3:00 am	Crib Service	Ch	Lay Led
9:00 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) with Carols	NW	Tina Stirling

Services Friday 25th December 2015 - Christmas Day

10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	LC	Archdeacon Karen Gorham
10:00 am	Christmas Praise	Ch	John Scholefield
10:00 am	Family Service	NW	Robert Hutton

Service Sunday 27th December 2015 – The First Sunday of Christmas, or St. John the Apostle and Evangelist

10.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Ian Ogilvie
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This is a United Benefice Service for all three parishes, and will be the only service in the Benefice today.

Services Sunday 3rd January 2016 – Christmas 2

9.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Steve and Rose Williams
10.00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Ray Copping
10:00 am	Family Communion	Ch	Steve and Rose Williams
6:00 to 7:30 pm	Rock Solid Youth Group		

Services Sunday 10th January 2016 – The Baptism of Christ or First Sunday of Epiphany

10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Lay Led
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Andy Bell
6.00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

Services Sunday 17th January 2016 – Epiphany 2

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Ch	Derek Witchell
10.00 am	Family Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Derek Witchell
10:30 am	Family Service	LC	Ray Copping

If you have events coming up in the Benefice and would like them included in future Pew Sheets, please let us have the details on llm.chearsley@btinternet.com Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield